



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 558

February Session, 2008

* _____SB00558HS_APP031808_____*

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE AVAILABILITY OF OPTIONAL SERVICES
UNDER THE MEDICAID PROGRAM AND INCREASING ACCESS TO
THE MEDICAID PROGRAM FOR THE MEDICALLY NEEDY, ELDERLY
AND DISABLED.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 17b-28e of the 2008 supplement to the general
2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
3 (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

4 (a) [Not later than September 30, 2002, the Commissioner of Social
5 Services shall submit an amendment to the Medicaid state plan to
6 implement the provisions of public act 02-1 of the May 9 special
7 session* concerning optional services under the Medicaid program.]
8 The Commissioner of Social Services shall amend the Medicaid state
9 plan to include, as optional services covered under the Medicaid
10 program (1) services provided by a podiatrist licensed under chapter
11 375, (2) services provided by a chiropractor licensed under chapter 372,
12 and (3) hospice services. Said state plan amendment shall supersede
13 any regulations of Connecticut state agencies concerning such optional
14 services.

15 (b) The Commissioner of Social Services shall amend the Medicaid
16 state plan to include foreign language interpreter services provided to
17 any beneficiary with limited English proficiency as a covered service

18 under the Medicaid program.

19 Sec. 2. Section 17b-261 of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes
20 is amended by adding subsection (j) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

21 (NEW) (j) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the
22 Commissioner of Social Services, pursuant to 42 USC 1396a (r) (2),
23 shall file an amendment to the Medicaid state plan that shall allow the
24 commissioner, when making Medicaid income eligibility
25 determinations, to establish and maintain the level of eligibility for
26 persons who are aged, blind or disabled at the same income level used
27 to determine eligibility for parents and needy caretaker relatives under
28 the HUSKY Plan, Part A, by establishing a special income disregard
29 that is applicable only to aged, blind or disabled individuals and only
30 under the Medicaid program.

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|---|---------------------|---------|
| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | <i>July 1, 2008</i> | 17b-28e |
| Sec. 2 | <i>July 1, 2008</i> | 17b-261 |

HS

Joint Favorable Subst. C/R

APP